

OSM Tracker

Objectives

In this section you will learn how to download, install and use android based application in GPS enabled android phones called OSM Tracker. It is used to bring information of a place relating to a location.

Definition

OSMTracker (Android) is a mobile application used to track and save both positional (latitude/longitude) and non-positional (names, height of the structure, date of construction, etc.) data of Points of Interest (POIs). For example if your POI is a *Chorten/Stupa* then using OSMTracker you would save both its coordinates and descriptive information.

Note: Interface can vary from one android phone to another. For this tutorial, Micromax Nitro is used.

Download and Install OSMTracker

1. Go to **Google Play Store** in your android phone (*you need to have a gmail account*)

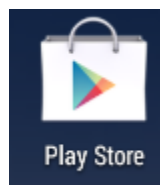


Figure 1 -
Google Play
Store



2. Search for **OSM Tracker**

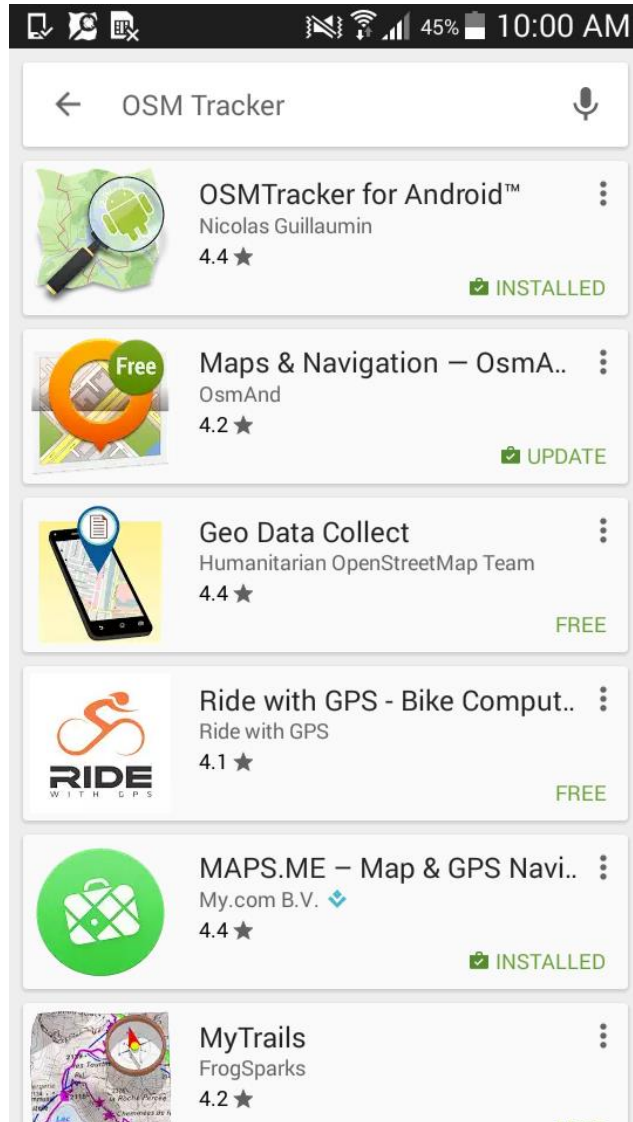


Figure 2 - OSM Tracker

3. Click on “**Install**” and **download** the application. It may take some time.

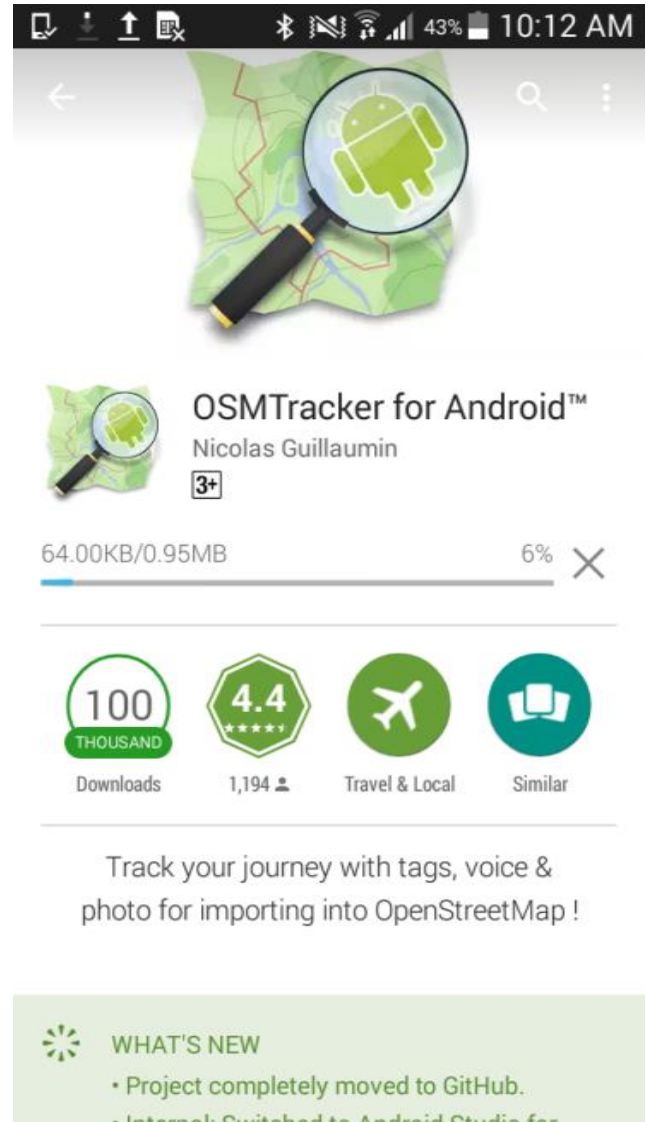


Figure 3 - Install and Download OSM Tracker

You are now ready to use the app!

4. When you click **‘OPEN’** you will see the following interface:

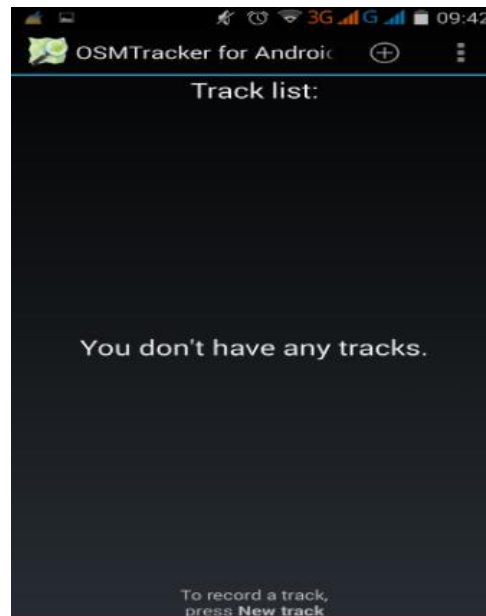


Figure 4 - Interface before adding a new track

5. **‘You don’t have any tracks’** is displayed on the screen. This is because no tracks have been added but also means that the application is now ready to accept your new tracks. The **‘+’** sign on the upper right hand corner of the screen allows you to add tracks. Click on it, a new track is added to the list and you can see the following interface:

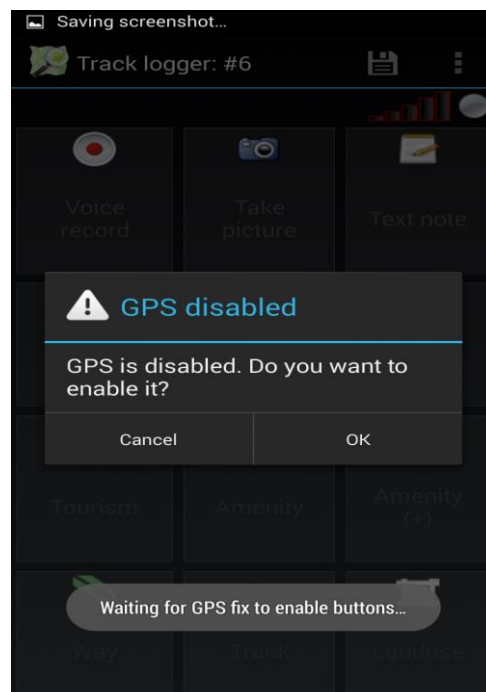


Figure 5 - After you add new track, it asks to enable GPS

6. Enable your GPS to track location. Click **'OK'** on the above interface and subsequent interfaces will appear (proceed according to the instructions stated in the captions):

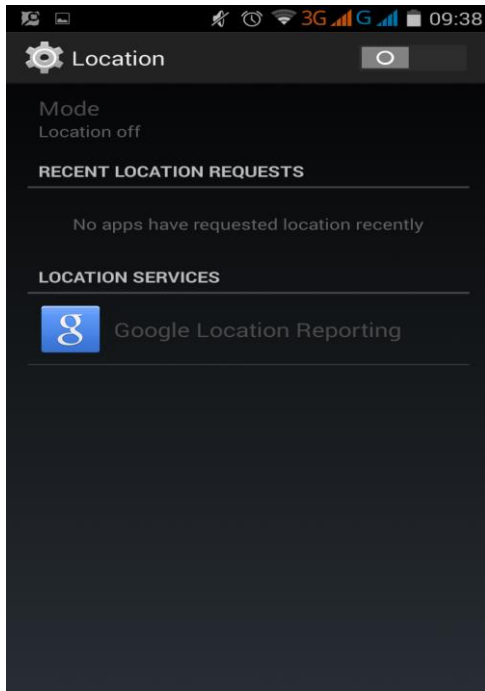


Figure 6a - Enable location (GPS) of the phone

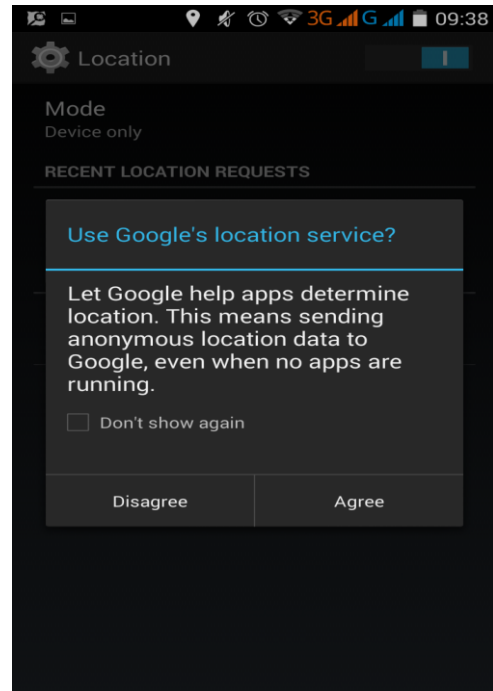


Figure 6b - Click on "Disagree"

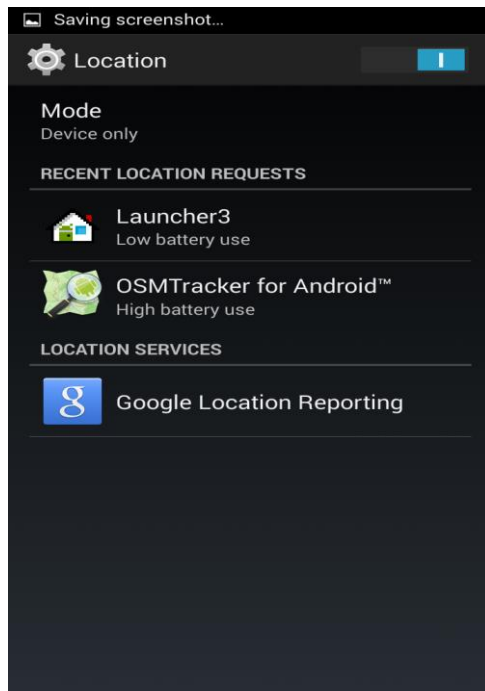


Figure 6c - Location (GPS) enabled

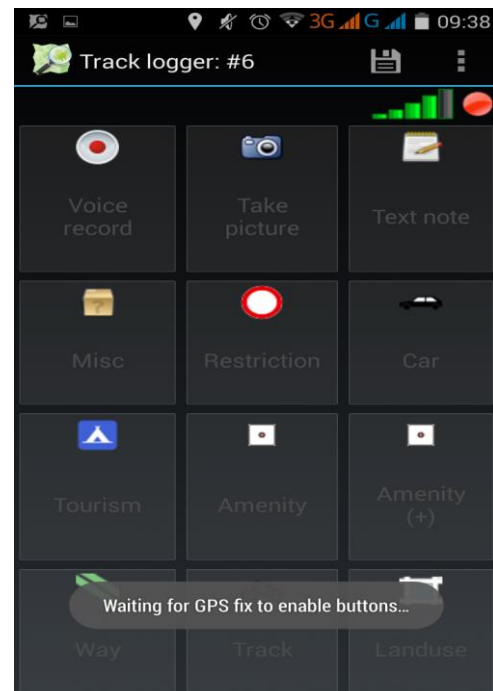


Figure 6d – Wait for the GPS to fix

7. Your GPS will take a little while to accurately find your location.

Once the application is confident about your GPS coordinates, your location is fixed and you can track data. Tracking starts only after an accuracy level of **4 m** or lower. This number is displayed beside the green bars symbol.

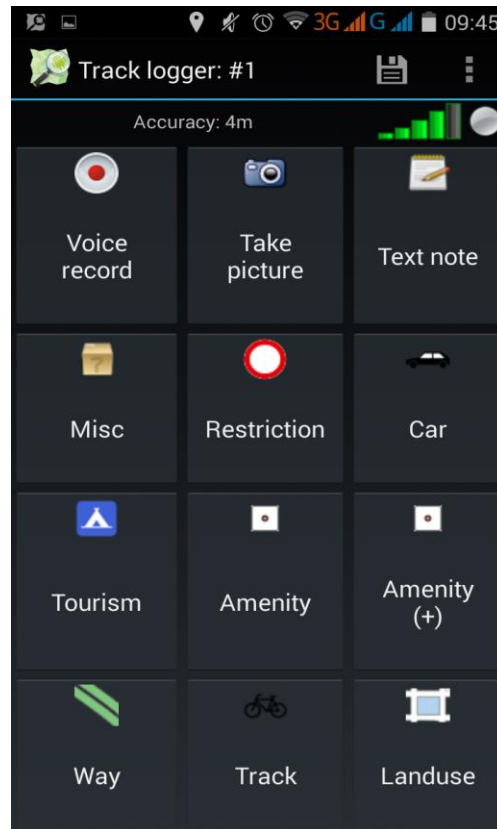


Figure 7 - Interface after GPS fixes

As soon as the GPS is fixed, your track starts. Using the icons on the interface, you can collect additional data such as photographs and audio files or quickly describe your POI by using preset tags such as Tourism and Amenity.

The three most used buttons are **‘Voice record’**, **‘Take picture’** and **‘Text note’**. Screenshots below show you what sort of interface is displayed and what happens if you click on some of these buttons.

8. You can see the following interface when you click on ‘**Voice recording**’. You can collect an audio file of 2 seconds. Click stop once you are done.

You can see the following interface when you click on ‘**Take picture**’. You will be prompted to choose between your camera or photo gallery. After you choose your camera and take a picture, click ‘**SAVE**’ in the top right hand corner and the app will save the image and automatically resume tracking.

You can see the following interface when you click on ‘**Text note**’. Click ‘**OK**’ once you have typed your note. The app will record and resume tracking.

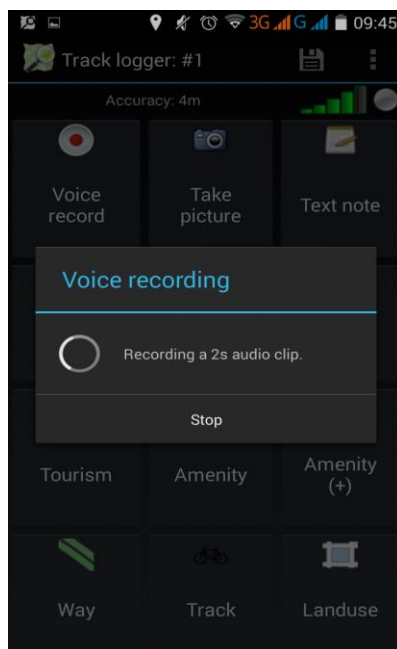


Figure 8a - Voice Recording

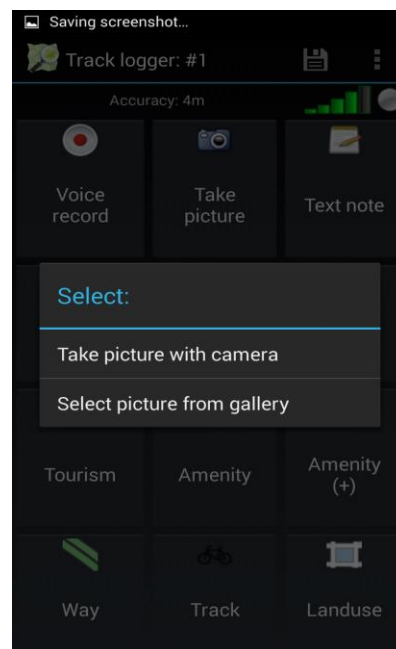


Figure 8b - Take Picture

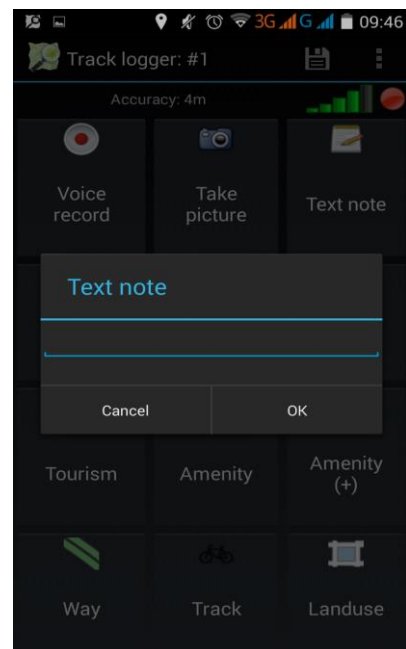


Figure 8c - Text Note

You can also use buttons like ‘**Restriction**’, ‘**Way**’, ‘**Track**’. These buttons are useful to collect transportation data.



9. You can see the following interface when you click on **‘Restriction’**. You can collect the max speed and road restrictions.

You can see the following interface when you click on **‘Way’**. You can collect the type of the road.

You can see the following interface when you click on **‘Track’**. You can collect the condition of the road.

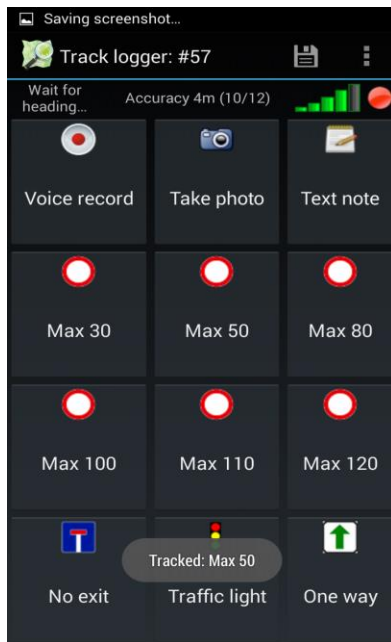


Figure 9a – “Restriction” Interface

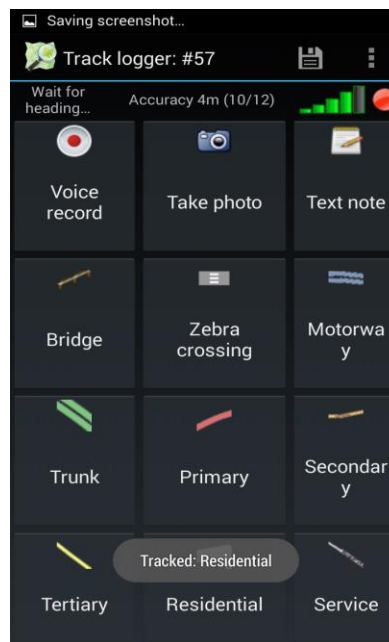


Figure 9b - "Way" Interface

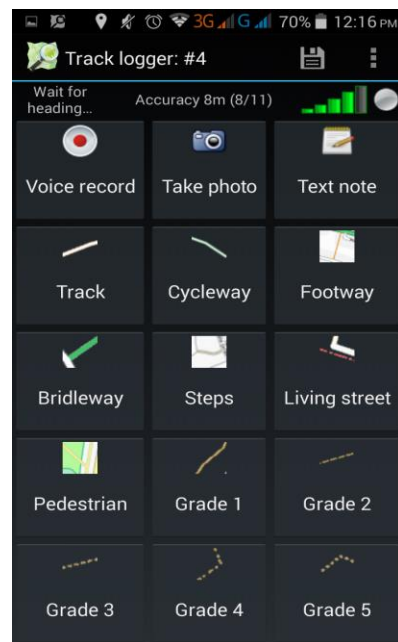


Figure 9c - "Track" Interface

Note: ‘Voice record’, ‘Take picture’ and ‘Text note’ can be used in combination or in addition to any other button.

10. Saving your New Track

After you have collected the data, you need to save the track.

Click the “back” button on your phone. You can see the track file named after the date and time it was recorded on.

Long press on the track file and you can see the following options:

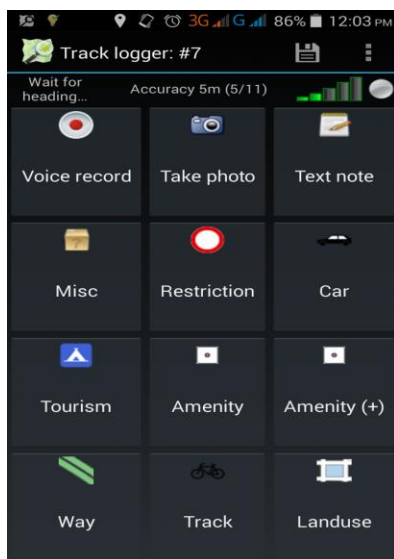


Figure 10a - Track with Features Interface

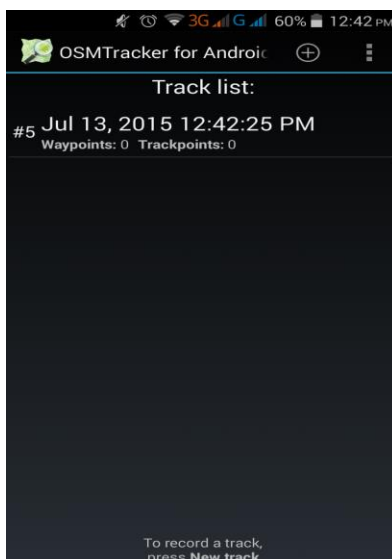


Figure 10b - Track File with Date and Time

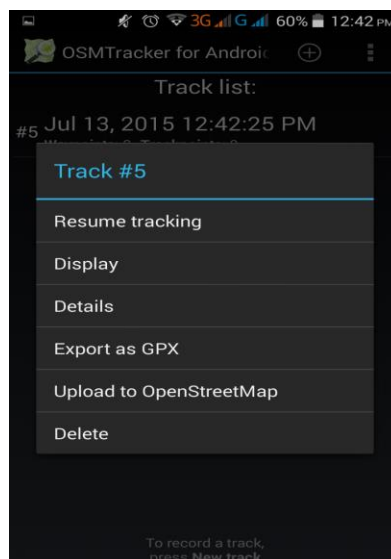


Figure 10c - Hold the track for a couple of seconds

11. Click on '**Export as GPX**'. This will create a GPX file on your phone which will later be used to map the information collected by this app.

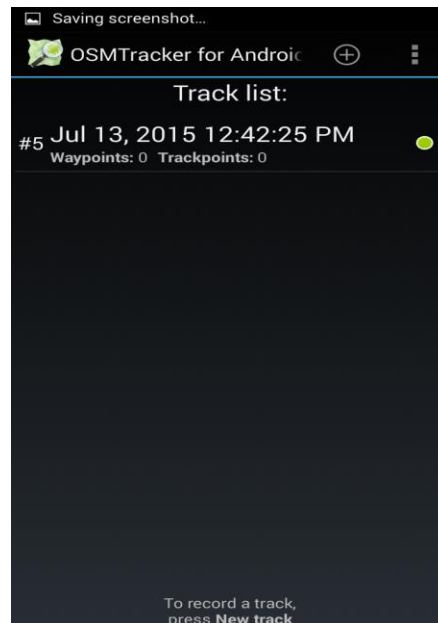


Figure 11 - Click "Export as GPX"